

02/15/02  
J1132 U.S. PTO

BOX: PATENT APPLICATION

NIT-163-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: M. IWAYAMA et al  
Serial No. 09/442,147  
Filed: November 18, 1999

Group Art: 2171  
Examiner: C. Rones  
For: A METHOD OF SEARCHING DOCUMENTS AND  
A SERVICE FOR SEARCHING DOCUMENTS

JC868 U.S. PTO  
10/075283  
02/15/02

REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Box: Patent Application  
Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 15, 2002

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 CFR §1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/442,147, filed on November 18, 1999, entitled A METHOD OF SERACHING DOCUMENTS AND A SERVICE FOR SEARCHING DOCUMENTS, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.

100-961506

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION  
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

3. A check including the amount of \$740.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

5. New drawings are enclosed, two (2) sheets, Figs. 1-2.

6. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293  
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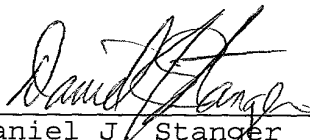
7. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd..

8. Priority of the following Japanese patent application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 10-328940, filed November 19, 1998.

The certified priority document has been filed in the prior application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/442,147, as originally filed on November 18, 1999.



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Date: February 15, 2002